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HELPERS AMONG US

Helpers Among Us — Bobby's Books raising funds for charity

JOYCE WESTNER | STAFF WRITER

November 15, 2024 . 4:11 PM — 2 min read

Books for sale (left to right) by Ainsley Harrington, Sonny O'Donnell, Bobby Atchinson and Liam Wignell. COURTESY PHOTO/JEANNA ATCHINSON

Bobby Atchinson is a bibliophile for sure. At the age of 8, he was wondering what to do with them all.

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"I wanted to donate them, but then I decided to help kids who don't have homes," he says.

And on Nov. 9, he set up shop outside Book Ends on Main Street and sold more than 200 of them for $5 each.

"I made $1,300," he says, adding he'll be there for the next three Saturdays selling mostly elementary-aged books.

On Giving Tuesday, Dec. 3, he'll present the money to the New England Home for Little Wanderers.

Bobby Atchinson will be outside Book Ends on Main Street, selling books for charity. COURTESY PHOTO/JEANNA ATCHINSON

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When asked how the Book Ends owners felt about his competition, he said, "That's where I got most of my books."

Shop owner Jillian Hartline was thrilled to help Bobby out.

"We love seeing people use Winchester's love of reading to support a great cause," she says. "For the past two years of being part of the Winchester community, we have been impressed at how generous and creative the younger generation is."

Bobby Atchinson, 8, says he will be donating the proceeds from his book sales to the New England Home for Little Wanderers on Dec. 3. COURTESY PHOTO/JEANNA ATCHINSON

Bobby says the venture was a family affair.

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"My younger brother Liam helps at the cash register and we also accept Venmo," Bobby says.

When asked how many books he reads, he said about eight and right now, he's reading, "I Survived D-Day."

The Ambrose student also set up a bin at his school and not only do his fellow students donate their books, but folks leave some at his Everett Avenue front door. He says his favorite subject in Mrs. Gentile's class is math.

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Helpers Among Us - WinPAC unites with light

On a cold and blustery day, two post-graduate Winchester High School students and others stood outside the Stop & Shop

HELPERS AMONG US

Helpers Among Us - Alisa Dong needs your help with Thanksgiving food dr

Standish Lane resident Alis lived in town for about four years, but she's

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inviting folks to buy luminary kits as part of the Unite with Light event planned for Sunday, Dec. 14. The successful program was started by Mairin Norton, a high-schooler who

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November 27, 2025

already immersed in helping people. And she wants residents to help her provide Thanksgiving Day meals for local food-insecure residents. A member of the town's Family Action Network (FAN), Dong is its

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HELPERS AMONG US

Helpers Among Us — Coaches volunteer to bring on the cheer

You probably know that cheerleaders appear at sporting events to cheer on their teams, but you might not know that cheerleading is a sport in its own right. Or that Winchester Cheer coaches volunteer to help girls and boys learn and compete in cheerleading. Middlesex Street resident Erin Black is

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HELPERS AMONG US

Helpers Among Us - Patti Reilly wants your children's clothes

Although Patti Reilly opened her boutique, Jules, about a year and a half ago, she's already discovered the generosity of Winchester residents. That's why she and her husband, John, decided to offer a 10% discount on one item to anyone who brings in "gently used children's clothing.

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EVENTS

Celebrate Women's History Month with Girls Leading Change

The following was submitted by the Network for Social Justice: To mark Women's History Month and International Women's Day in 2026, the Network for Social Justice is collaborating with club leaders from Winchester High School and members of the Community Health team from La Colaborativa in Chelsea and

March 4, 2026

NEWS

Winchester School Committee candidates bring contrasting backgrounds to Thursday forum

Two candidates for Winchester's School Committee will face voters at a forum as the district navigates a new literacy curriculum, budget pressures and questions about student mental health. Heather von Mering and John Bellaire are competing for an open seat on the School Committee, which oversees a budget von

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March 4, 2026

FEATURES

'Chicago: Teen Edition' dances onto the Winchester High School stage

By Talia Ho | Correspondent Fame. Fortune. And all that jazz. This spring, Winchester

RIPLEY PRESENTS
SYLDASON: YOU ARE WELCOME HERE
MARCH 13, 2026
7:30 PM
Sylvie Zakarian, marimba and Daniela Tosic, voice
Featuring folk and classical works by Gomidas, Hovhaness, Minkin, Radan, Tantchev, and Tassone.
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EVENTS

Ripley Chapel in Winchester presents 'Syldason: You Are Welcome Here'

The following was submitted by the Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church: On

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High School presents "Chicago: Teen Edition," a bold musical that explores celebrity culture, media manipulation, and the cost of ambition. This iconic production is set in the 1920s. Performances will take place on March 13 and 14

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS
March 4, 2026

Friday, March 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m., live in-person and live streamed from the stunning Ripley Chapel at First Congregational Church, Winchester, 21 Church St., join in with Syldason, a duo concert featuring Sylvie Zakarian,

March 4, 2026

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